

MINUTES DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH
OCTOBER 16, 2012

IN ATTENDANCE:

MARY ELLARD, VICE CHAIRMAN

LEANNE JASSET, MEMBER

CATHERINE CARDINALE, HEALTH DIRECTOR

JOAN CONWAY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mary called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Leanne motioned to accept the minutes of September 18, 2012 as written. Mary seconded all in favor aye opposed none.

Cathy introduced Dr. Lester Hartman of Westwood here to speak to us about the tobacco regulations.

Dr Hartman began by saying he is a pediatrician in Westwood and Mansfield he is a senior associate there and have been a pediatrician 26 years. I recently took a sabbatical and got a master in public health at the Harvard School of Public Health. One of my inspirational professors was the head of tobacco control for the State of Massachusetts and for Harvard. In re-assessing my career not only should we be looking at teen agers and prolonging their life expectancy into adulthood but their long term life expectancy and children as well. What are the effects of second hand smoke on children? I wrote a paper with the assistant minister of health for Japan. The cigarette industry has been trying to promote cigarettes for females and the government owns 50% of the cigarette industry there. I learned a lot from this paper for example 54% of children who come from non-smoking homes have nicotine in their blood when randomly checked between the ages of 4 and 11 years. This is information from the Center for Disease Control. In addition to that there are 200,000 deaths worldwide from second hand smoke. An estimated 1 billion died of tobacco related disease by the end of the 21st century that is tenfold what we had in the 20th century. The town of Needham has raised the tobacco sales age to 21years old and has banned sales of tobacco from pharmacies. Two other towns Walpole and Westwood have also banned sales of tobacco from pharmacies and are planning on having hearings to rise the purchase age to 21 for tobacco. I plan to speak to 20 boards of health you are now the fifth board of health I have come before.

We know from data of adolescent brain develop 90% of lifetime smokers began before the age of 18 years old. The theory behind this is that if you ban the sale of tobacco in pharmacies and raise the age of purchase to 21 years old there will not be as much access in high school. Needham has done some studies through the metro healthcare foundation and there has been a 50% reduction two years out after making these regulations.

Leanne motioned to take under advisement Dr. Hartman's two requests; which are to ban the sale of tobacco in pharmacies; and the second to rise the purchase age to 21 years old for tobacco products. Mary seconded. The board members thanked Dr. Hartman for his informative presentation.

Mr. Kent Blade – Installer's permit

Cathy explained that Mr. Blade had applied for an installer's license about three or four years ago to do a tank on the Dedham Parkway it did not pass Title V and had to be removed. Kent had applied for a permit and in the interim I got a call from Dedham/Westwood Water District about a water main breaking on the parkway and upon my arrival Kent was there. He had been removing the tank and upon inspection found the system that was there did not meet code. The owner was forced to connect to town sewer. In short Kent was never issued a permit and has been on the list of people not allowed to do work in the Town for violating Title V Department of Environmental regulations. He is here this evening because he has a job to do in Dedham and would like a permit. He must come before the board to be released from this list and be granted a permit in the town.

Mr. Blade said he has been installing systems for 40 years. On that particular job he finished the job early and the Town Hall was not open for him to pay the fee. Mr. Blade, what was the time frame between the time you applied and the time you started the work Leanne asked. Mr. Blade responded about a week and a half. So in that time you felt you had a verbal approval Leanne asked to which Mr. Blade responded yes. Why did you pick that particular day to do the job when you had a week and a half to come in and fill out your paperwork and pay for the permit? Mr. Blade said he had a big job going in Sudbury at the time. Cathy said I never heard from you after that day and you never paid for a permit or tried to rectify the situation. Mary said it was unfortunate that Dig Safe was called and they did not identify the water main but like any other job in town you must get the permit first. Mr. Blade did not have any active licenses. He has not had a job since 2008.

Leanne made a motion to take this under advisement we need to review all the paper work and review the unfortunate situation with your job in Dedham. Mary seconded. All in favor aye opposed none.

Cathy said as far as new business we will be having a Flu Clinic at the Dedham Middle School on Wednesday November 7th from 6-8 p.m.

With no further business to address Leanne motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mary seconded. All in favor aye opposed none. Mary adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Dr. Michael P. O'Leary, Chairman